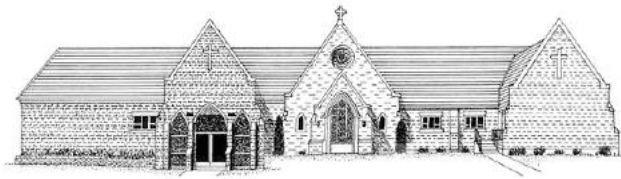


THE MESSENGER



Monthly news for Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Menominee, Michigan

September

2026



Sunday, September 13

8:00 Worship at the church building

10:00 Worship at Henes Park, pavilion #3

11:00 Picnic, following the late service

Hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, and cookies will be provided. Water and coffee will be available. Feel free to bring your own non-alcoholic beverage and your own lawn chair.

Children's games with prizes!

There will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex for those who would like to bring a side dish or dessert to pass, those able to serve, and those able to help with clean-up.

Please let us know if you will be attending by signing up in the narthex, or calling/emailing the church office at 906-863-3431 or mail@e-mmanuel.com

In case of rain, the service and picnic will be at the church.

O Lord, how many are my foes!
Many are rising against me;
many are saying to me,
“There is no help for you in God.”

But you, O Lord, are a shield around me,
my glory, and the one who lifts up my head.
I cry aloud to the Lord,
and he answers me from his holy hill.

I lie down and sleep;
I wake again, for the Lord sustains me.

— *Psalms 3:1-5 NRSVUE*

Life seems scary sometimes, doesn't it? Sometimes even our own schedule can seem like an attack! Do you know what I mean? As we come from the summer with its longer days and alternate schedules and plunge back into the rush of fall, we may feel beleaguered and attacked by our own busy-ness. And, that can leave us vulnerable to feelings of attack by other things as well—people, work, news stories. Our tempers may shorten as we again dive head-first into our activities, work, and schedules. We may forget to take a breath or stick our heads up to look around. We may forget that we are not alone in it all. We may forget to notice God and God's work in our lives.

Even though we are separated by David, who wrote this Psalm, by many centuries, distance, situations, and divergent cultures, perhaps we can feel an accord with him as he cries out saying, *“O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me; many are saying to me, ‘There is no help for you in God.’”* Our “foes” are not as defined as David's foes, but it often feels like we have them. It can feel like we're under

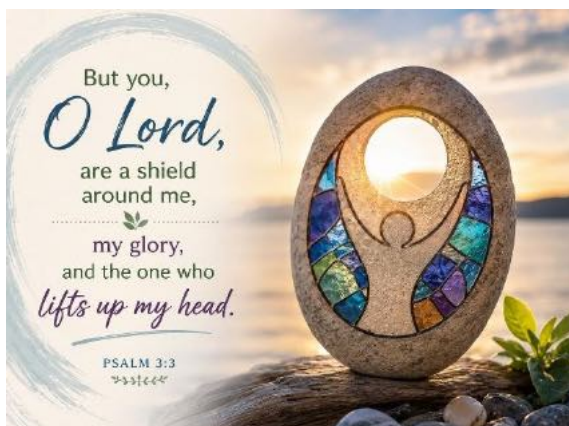
attack, with no help or support. Well, then, this is a good reminder that what feels true isn't always true.

"But you, O LORD, are a shield around me...the one who lifts up my head." God IS with us! God is with you! That's the truth—the very true truth! The Lord hears you when you cry. The Lord answers. The Lord sustains you as you sleep and as you wake again. God brings hope, peace, love, and joy into our lives again and again: every day, every MOMENT. God **longs** for you to know his love and joy. Imagine that! What God wants more than anything else is to share in love and joy with you and with all people. What a gift!

In a sermon recently, I **encouraged you to carve out 10 minutes of quiet a day—and to grow it to 30 minutes a day—to give space for your busy mind to recognize God.** *Have you started that process?* It takes a while to set such a habit, but once you do you won't want to give it up. Even a small amount of time will help you see God and notice how God works in your life to "lift up your head". Let me know how it's going and if I can give you any support!

Blessings to you always in the name of the One who sustains us.

— *Pastor Christine*



Youth Ministries



Important Dates for Confirmation Classes

Sunday, September 27th, 11:00 a.m. 7th/8th grade orientation for both students and parents.

Sunday, October 4th, 11:15-12:15 Classes start! 6th graders are welcome to join in on any of the classes to see what confirmation class is all about! A schedule of classes will be posted on the kiosk in the narthex and on our website.



Rite of Confirmation

Reformation Sunday, October 25th

Information will be mailed out soon to our 9th grade students/parents.

Mark your calendar for **Sunday, October 18th, 11:00 – 2:00 p.m. for our Confirmand and Family luncheon, practice, and robe fitting.**

Youth Service Opportunity

Youth 7th grade through 12th who can help with children's games at the **Rally Picnic at Henes Park on September 13th**,
let Patti know.



GLOW Youth Group

7th-12th grade

EVERY Wednesday 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Join us at church for Bible devos, group discussions, food, games, and fun. ***Bring a friend!***



Sunday School

Mark your calendar! Classes for Pre-K through 5th grade start Sunday, **September 20th.**

Children will attend the 10:00 a.m. worship service with their family, receive a children's sermon, and then be dismissed to their classrooms. Parents are asked to pick up their children from their classrooms following worship.





Vacation Bible School

VBS was held August 11, 12, 13. What a great time we had on our mission to discover God's incredible love.

On our last day of VBS our children sang their songs to their families, and Pastor

Christine and the children blessed the donations of money for our ELCA Good Gifts Honey Bee collection. Thank you to our children and congregation who so generously donated. Our last day of VBS ended with a fun and informative presentation by beekeepers, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Carlson, who taught everyone about beekeeping and the importance of bees.

Thank you to our VBS staff!

Skits – Jeff Bayerl

Crafts – Gabi Anders and Linda Villas

Games – Bill Taccolini

Snacks - Cindy Smith, Connie Taccolini, Pam Champagne and Bonnie Jackson

Bible Adventures – Pastor Christine

Crew Leaders - Dawson McKenney, Cole Brezsko, Emory Bryant, and Taylor Sallgren

Music – Patti Treptow

Planning Team – Marilyn Mouritsen, Judy Raygo, & Patti Treptow



more VBS.....





Adult Ministries

Prayer Group

Resumes on September 9 at 9:30am.

Care & Share Alzheimer's Support

Wednesdays, 3:00—5 PM

A support group for caregivers of loved ones with Alzheimer's and other dementias is being offered at Emmanuel in the church narthex.

Women's Group

Women of all ages are invited to attend our monthly Women's Group. Join us as we explore God's word, enjoy fellowship, and support each other through our journey of faith.

Starts up on Thursday, September 10th at 1:00 pm in the Friendship Room. The next meetings will be on the first Thursday of the month. Sign up in the narthex to order our study book.

Yoga at Emmanuel

All abilities and ages are invited to attend this relaxing, stress relieving, stretching exercise. Classes start on Tuesday, September 8th, 5:30 – 6:00 pm. The instructor is Sally VanEyck. Cost is \$8.00 per person.

Congregational Financial Update

(through July 31, 2026)

Approved 2026 budgeted offerings received: \$128,971.97

Amount behind approved budget: \$7,656.03

Total offerings and income received: \$136,491.28

Total expenses: \$151,274.91

Expenses greater than income by \$14,783.63



Prayerful Hearts and Healing Service

**Monday, Sept 21 at 5:00 PM
in the Chapel**

This world can be a stressful place. It seems particularly tense right now, doesn't it? We need a place to rest, to relax, to let go of our stress and allow God room to enter in the process. We need a place to find room to breathe and space to heal.

Come for a calming service of prayer, healing, and reflection on the third Monday of each month. Together we will explore healing in God's light and love.

All people ages 10+ are welcome!



Seeking Jesus

**Monday, Sept 21 at 6:00 PM
in the Chapel**

Spend some time with Jesus! Invite Jesus to come and talk with you. This prayer practice gives you a chance to open up to the Spirit and connect with God in new depths. The pastor has been using it for years to be present to God's Presence. In these sessions, she will teach anyone who wants to learn.

You don't need to settle for "head knowledge" only when it comes to your faith in God. In this prayer session, we learn to engage the heart and soul as well.

All people ages 15+ are welcome!

Dealing with that “C” Word

Bible Study: Growing in Compassion

Wednesdays, starting Sept 30 for 5 weeks
from either 1:30—2:30 or 6:30—7:30pm
in the Chapel

This one-hour study will have 3 parts:

- 1) For the first 20 minutes, we will talk about how compassion affects our lives. *(No pressure to share—only those who WANT to talk.)* Where is compassion at work in our lives and in ourselves? How do we struggle with it?
- 2) For the next 20 minutes, we will study a scripture passage to see what the Bible tells us about compassion. What does God’s Word have to say about compassion’s role and purpose in life and in faith?
- 3) For the final 20 minutes, we will do a prayer practice that cultivates compassion in our hearts and lives. Then, we will seek to do that practice on our own throughout the week to see compassion grow.

Jesus tells us over and over again to love others, even strangers and our “enemies”. ***Yet, how do we do that?!*** Sometimes it’s hard to have compassion for our loved ones when they annoy us and sometimes it’s REALLY hard to have compassion for ourselves. SO, how can we even begin to have it for those we don’t like? This study and practice will help us to deepen and broaden our compassion for all people — our loved ones and friends, ourselves, strangers, and even our enemies.

Sign up in the narthex.

Cost: \$0 —FREE!

Strange Widely-Unknown Facts

1) Neither Pastor Christine nor our church secretary, Judy, have *Hospital Radar*.

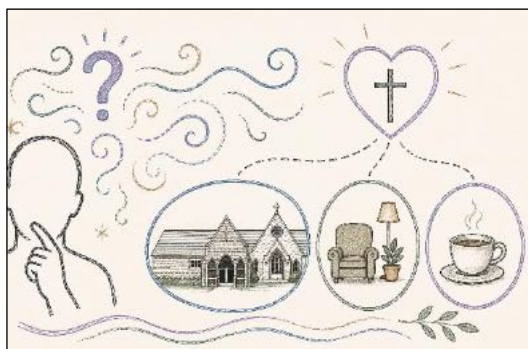


We sometimes hear, “You know, I was in the hospital last week...” No: we didn’t know. The hospitals stopped notifying churches about their members being in the hospital about 23 years ago because of new (and

current) HIPPA laws. Unless you or a family member call, we may never know. ***BUT***, we would ***LOVE*** to know so that the pastor can pray for you and visit, if desired and possible.

2) Pastor Christine’s psychic powers are not well honed; in fact, they are currently unreliable at best (nonexistent at worst).

Do you need emotional or spiritual support or guidance? Please contact the pastor and set up a visit. There are different options for such meetings: you can come to the church



office, PC can come to your home, or we can meet in a public place for coffee, lunch, or supper. The pastor can’t tell that you need support just by looking at you, at least not until her mind-reading abilities improve. ***Please reach out.*** *It’s part of her job and part that she loves as holy work!*

3) **You don't need to be on your deathbed (or even close!) to receive a pastoral care visit.**

If you are recovering from surgery or dealing with an injury or illness and will be unable to come to worship for at least two months, the pastor would love to visit to bring you the Holy Communion, pray for you, and touch base with your

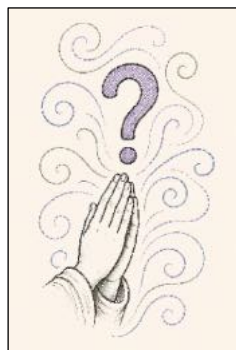


wellness. Many times when Pastor Christine talks to people in such recovery and asks if they would like a visit, she hears in response, "No, not yet." This confuses her.

"Not yet?", what are we waiting for? ***It's not a "bother" to bring you the sacrament in these times.*** As mentioned above, *it's actually a part of the pastor's JOB and most holy work.* If you don't want a visit, perhaps we can pray together on the phone. Please consider letting the pastor know when you're going to be out of worship for a time for recovery.

4) **We can only pray for you if we KNOW you want or need prayers (again: low psychic ability!)**

Prayer is powerful! Yet, the pastor, staff, and prayer chain can't pray for you if you don't let us know. We understand the desire for privacy for some people or in certain circumstances. Your prayer request can go as far as you wish: to the pastor only, to the prayer chain, or as a request in Sunday worship. *Please let us know how we can pray for you.*





People in our congregation have been standing up in worship to share some of their faith stories with us.

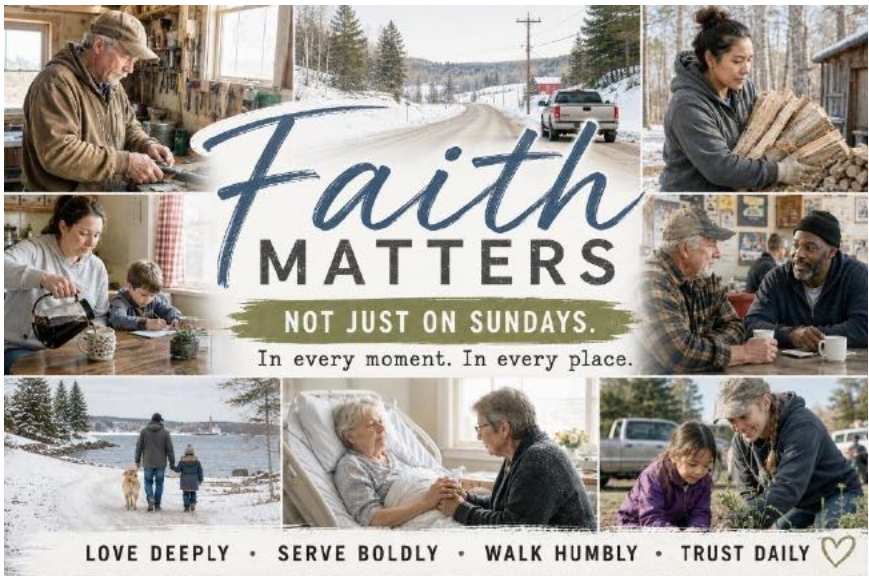
We are blessed to have heard from several who have shared:

Jim Briar
Jeremy Sallgren
Kacy Eland
Cookie Kramer
Jeremy Camps
Jeff Bayerl

Holly Bayerl
Brianna Camps
Matt Vanni
Eileen Beyer
Cindy Smith
Travis Rod

We are blessed to hear from **Kathy Saunier on Oct 11th** at both 8:00 and 10:00! *(No one in Sept b/c of Rally Day.)*

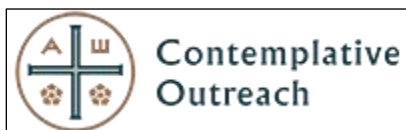
***We need someone for November 8 and December 13.
Please contact PC if you are willing.***



Adults:

Join Pastor Christine for a retreat this December!

Are you interested in experiencing a retreat setting for prayer and learning? Here is an opportunity! We can attend the following retreat as a group to grow closer to God and to each other in a unique experience. More details, including cost, will be coming soon. ***Please talk to PC if you would like more information.*** Mark your calendar and keep your eyes open for more details!



4-Day Prayer Retreat

offered by

***Contemplative Outreach of Southeast Wisconsin
(COSEW)***

at the

Siena Retreat Center at Racine, WI

December 3-6

(Thursday to Sunday)

Removing Obstacles for Transformation

Presented by Christine Bender

Christine will draw on Thomas Keating's Spiritual Journey series in her presentations to teach us about accessing our true divine nature. Centering prayer sessions and silence will provide retreatants with a balance of learning and prayer.

You can also contact Tricia Heine with questions:

taheines@yahoo.com or 608-852-5254

Sponsorship of the Messenger and weekly Bulletin

If you would like to sponsor a 2026 monthly publication of the Messenger or a weekly publication of the bulletin in honor or memory of a person or event, please contact the church office.

***\$125 covers the cost of a Messenger publication and mailing.
\$30 covers the cost of a weekly bulletin.***



Emmanuel's Brat Fry Fundraisers at Jack's in Menominee

Come out for a couple of hours between 8am and 2pm to help with Emmanuel's fundraiser on:

**THIS MONTH: September 18 & 19
October 2 & 3**

This is a big fundraiser for our church and it's FUN to do!
Thank you for your help!

Building Maintenance Project UPDATE

Our church building needs some work. (See earlier newsletters for more details.) *With everything needed, we expect the total cost to be around \$30,000.*

So far, we have been given \$10,762 for this project.
Thank you for your continued support.



What's the first thing that comes to mind as you think about giving to the church? I'm guessing it might be something along the line of bills, budgets, and numbers. You may also be thinking about the biblical call to generosity and stewardship. If you're honest, you may even be thinking of obligation—a little more 'duty' than 'delight'. ***But... what about joy?***

Generosity is one of the Fruits of the Spirit — the Spirit who flows from God the Father and fills us with the love and joy of God who rejoices to love us abundantly with joy upon joy! Doesn't it make sense, then, that giving is meant to be a joy?

As we enter into the fall season and our annual stewardship campaign, think about what gives YOU joy when it comes to giving and generosity.

Where do you see joy IN generosity?

How does giving support or effect your faith?

(The opening paragraph of this announcement is from Luther Seminary's Faith+Lead post, issue #207 on August 18.)



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

LWR Truck Loading

Saturday, October 10

9:00 — 11:30 am

at Zion Lutheran Church, Marinette

Adults and youth between 6th-12th grades are invited to help load items for Lutheran World Relief on **Saturday, October 10**. We will be loading quilts, school supplies, and baby kits onto a semi-truck for Lutheran World Relief between 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. There will be coffee, hot chocolate, and donuts available for the down time between truck arrivals. Please bring a water bottle. This year there is a **NEW LOCATION!** We will be meeting at Zion Lutheran Church (2714 James Street, Marinette) to fill a semi-truck instead of a boxcar.

Contact Stefanie Ehle

at youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org or (810) 881-2669 with questions or to RSVP.

Northern Great Lakes Synod

To find out what is happening around our Synod, check out the Northern Great Lakes Website at www.nglsynod.org



REGISTER NOW!

*Join us for the 2026 Fall
Lifelong Faith Formation Classes*

The Church's Role in a Divided Society: Public Deliberative Dialog

With Rev. Sharolyn Swenson and Rev. J. Michael Mills

One Session on Thursday, September 24, 2026

Held in-person at Bethany, Ishpeming, MI with Zoom curated space also available.

6:30-8:30 pm Eastern / 5:30-7:30 pm Central

Encountering God in the Modern Middle East

With Todd Holmstrom – Mondays, September 21, 28, and October 5, 12

7:00-8:00 pm Eastern / 6:00-7:00 pm Central

Lutheranism 101: Lens, God's Grace, and Essentials

With Bishop Katherine Finegan, Rev. Tim Johnston, and Rev. J. Michael Mills

7:00-8:00 pm Eastern / 6:00-7:00 pm Central

Thursday, October 29 – The Lutheran Lens

Wednesday, November 4 – God's Grace

Wednesday, November 11 – Essential Lutheran Tidbits

The Pollinator Garden

With members of the NE MN Synod Pollinator Plot Steering Committee
and Good Shepherd, Peshtigo, WI

One Session on Thursday, September 17

7:00 – 8:30 pm Eastern / 6:00 – 7:30 pm Central

The Prophets: Their Voice, Context, and Significance

With Rev. Philip Johnson - Tuesdays, October 20, 27, and November 3, 10

7:00-8:15 pm Eastern, 6:00-7:15 pm Central

Walking through Mark: Preparing for Year B

With Rev. Nicole Hanson-Lynn - Sundays, September 20 – November 15

7:00-8:00 pm Eastern, 6:00-7:00 pm Central

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT EMMANUEL

In-person Worship: 8 + 10 AM

Online Worship 8:00 AM

Livestreamed on our Facebook page

CONTACT US:

Phone: (906) 863-3431

Email: mail@e-mmanuel.com

or

Visit us on the Web at www.e-mmanuel.com



Follow us on Instagram and Facebook at
Emmanuel Lutheran Church Menominee Michigan ELCA

STAFF:

Pastor

The Rev. Christine Olson

Email: pastor2901@e-mmanuel.com

Director of Youth & Family Ministry

Mrs. Patti Treptow

Email: ptreptow@e-mmanuel.com

Church Secretary

Mrs. Judy Raygo

Custodian – inside Mrs. Carol Parrish

Custodian – outside Mr. Lee Parrish



**We are a congregation of the
Northern Great Lakes Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.**

